



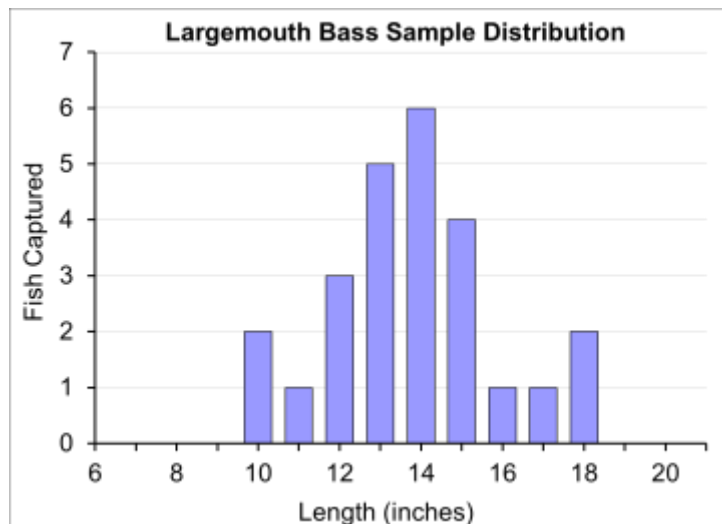
## Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Fishery Information Sheet

**LAKE:** Esadore Lake

**COUNTY:** Taylor

**YEAR:** 2018

Esadore Lake is a 46-acre drainage lake with quite clear water and a lakebed comprised of 45% sand, 40% gravel, and 15% muck that supports aquatic vegetation in moderate density. Maximum and average depths are 36 and 15 feet. In late spring 2018 when water temperature was 72°F, WDNR assessed bass and panfish populations by electrofishing.

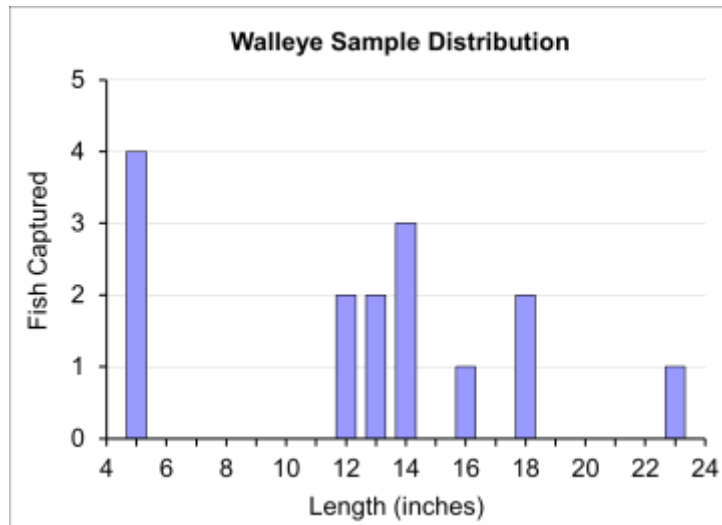
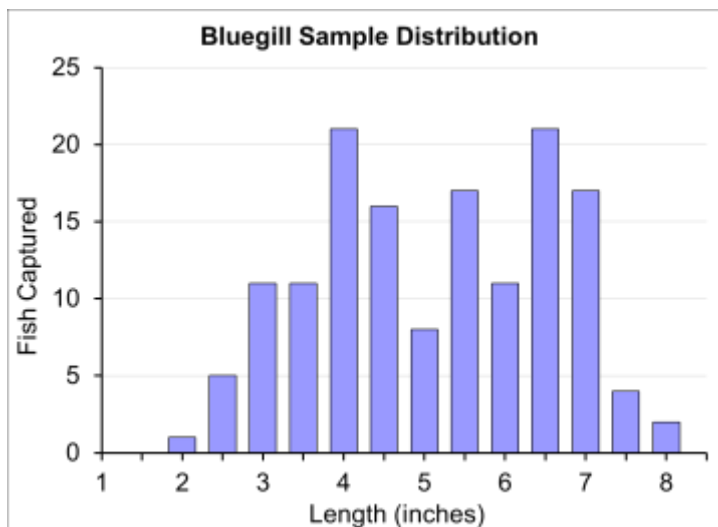


### Largemouth Bass

We captured 25 largemouth bass at rates of 15 bass  $\geq 8"$  per mile and 28 bass per hour. Their length ranged 10.3 – 18.2" and averaged 14.1". The population's abundance decreased, and its size structure improved since our last survey. Nearly a third of the bass in our recent sample were at least 15 inches long, compared to 12% attaining that size in our late spring 2008 sample.

### Bluegill

Electrofishing yielded a sample of 145 bluegills, ranging 2.4 – 8.1" and averaging 5.3" long. Our capture rate of 81 bluegills  $\geq 3"$  per mile suggests that bluegill abundance has decreased 44% since 2008, possibly due to added predation by stocked walleye. Yet, their size structure showed only modest improvement. Comparing late spring 2008 and 2018 electrofishing samples, the share of bluegills 6" or longer rose from 31% to 40%, and the proportion at least 7" increased from 13% to 17%, but the fraction of preferred-size fish 8" or longer was unchanged at 1%.



### Walleye

We know that late spring electrofishing surveys do not properly characterize the abundance and size structure of adult walleye populations. Nonetheless, the incidental catch of 15 walleye 5.1 – 23.6" shows that some of the 12,000 small fingerlings stocked in 1998 – 2011 and 2,710 large fingerlings cooperatively raised and planted annually in 2008 – 2018 are surviving and growing to supplement predatory control of panfish numbers and offer bonus fishing opportunity, as intended.

For questions or additional information contact:

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